

MINUTES

—OF THE—

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Columbia Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

The Selma Baptist Church, Geneva Co., Ala.,
October 9th, 10th and 11th, 1895.

OFFICERS:

W. C. CLEVELAND,
W. M. BURR,
B. A. FORRESTER,

Moderator.
Clerk.
Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

F. M. WALKER, DAN WILLIAMS, N. S. FELLOWS,
T. R. ATWELL, W. H. GRANBERRY.

The next session will be held with Camp Springs
Church commencing on Wednesday before the
first Sunday in November 1896, at 10:30,
A. M., and continuing three days.

DOTIAN, ALA.:
THE WIRE-GRASS SIFTINGS.
1895.

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR NEXT SESSION.

WEDNESDAY.

- 10:30 o'clock, Devotional exercises.
- 11, Introductory Sermon.
- Appoint committee on credentials.

RECESS.

- 1:30, Organization.
- 2, Reading reports of Standing Committees, Executive Committee and Treasurer.
- 2:30, Temperance.
- 3:30, Orphanage.

THURSDAY.

- 9, Devotional exercises.
- 9:30, Missions.
- 11, Preaching by W. P. Stewart.

RECESS.

- 1:30, Missions continued.
- 2:30, Education and Ministerial Education.
- 3:30, Miscellaneous Business.

FRIDAY.

- 9, Devotional exercises.
- 9:30, Sunday Schools.
- 10:30, Miscellaneous Business.
- 11, Sermon, J. J. White.

N. B.—The churches will please notice that this order of business extends over two and a half days, and require their messengers to go prepared to remain till the close of the session.

Selma Baptist Church, Geneva Co., Ala.,
Wednesday, Oct. 9th, 1895.

The Columbia Baptist Association assembled in its eleventh annual session with the Selma church, Geneva, Co., Ala., Wednesday, Oct. 9th, 1895, at 10:30 o'clock A. M., M. Cody, Moderator of the last Association, presiding, and W. M. Burr, former clerk, at the table,

H. L. Lisenby conducted devotional exercises. Prayer by brethren Lisenby, Johson, Burr and Cleveland. At 11 o'clock the annual sermon was preached by J. J. White from John 14: 15, 16: "If ye love me keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever."

At the close of the sermon a motion to take a recess until 1:30 prevailed, and the Association adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order at 1:30 by the Moderator. Prayer by S. A. Savell. The letters were called for by the Moderator and were read by the Clerk assisted by S. A. Savell, and the following

LIST OF MESSENGERS

W^{as} enrolled:

Ashford—R. D. Dixon, J. B. Kelly.
Balkum—J. A. Summerford, Langly Sasser.
Bluff Springs—A. F. Sinquefield, W. H. Sinquefield, J. N. Yon.
Camp Springs—J. H. Lane, W. H. Howard.
Columbia—W. C. Cleveland, F. M. Walker.
Cowarts—James Cooley, Luke Palmore.
Dothan—Daniel Williams, W. J. Fortner, H. J. Ward.
Ebenezer—W. L. Johnson, J. L. Webb.
Halesburg—S. T. Hale, L. L. Tinsley.
Jekory Grove—J. G. Miller, E. Z. Hatton.
Liberty—J. T. Culbreth.
Memphis—J. W. Smith, J. K. Prevatt, T. M. Spivey, B. B. Parsons. [Pettis.
Midway—J. M. Moates.
Mt. Ararat—W. R. Nall, B. H. Whitten.
Mt. Gilead—Abbie Enfinger.
Mt. Enon—J. G. Patterson, D. S. McAlister, W. H. Holton.
Mt. Pleasant—W. F. Roberson, Jno. Lambert, P. H. Philips, J. M. Mann, W. W.
Mt. Sinai—T. B. Fortson, W. H. Jerkins.
New Providence—J. T. Pope, T. R. Atwell.
Pleasant Plains—Letter but no messengers.
Pilgrims Rest—W. P. Jordan, S. T. Shiver.
Pleasant Hill—H. H. Pool.
Rehoboth—J. M. Baxley, Calvin Kelley.
Shiloh—W. M. Love.
Selma—S. Martin, W. W. Folsom.
Union Hill—J. A. Cameron, Jno. Ontlaw, W. K. Gilmore.

1. The Association was organized by the election of W. C. Cleveland Moderator, W. M. Burr Clerk, and B. A. Forrester Treasurer.

2. Petitionary letters were called for but none were presented.

3. Visitors were called for. None were present.

4. Messengers from corresponding Associations were called for and the following were present: Judson Association—Rev. A. Daughety, M. V. Capps, and W. H. Elmore. From the West Florida—J. W. Johnson.

5. A committee on preaching consisting of B. A. Forrester and the messengers from this church was appointed.

6. Messengers were appointed to corresponding Associations as follows: To the Judson: L. L. Hall, W. C. Cleveland, S. Williford, W. K. Gilmore, S. T. Spivey, D. Williams, S. T. Hall, and W. M. Burr. To the Newton: L. L. Hall and S. Williford. To the West Florida: J. J. White, J. D. Pierce, R. Dixon and T. R. Atwell. To the State Convention: W. C. Cleveland, J. J. White; S. A. Savell, B. A. Forrester and W. M. Burr.

7. W. C. Cleveland was elected as the representative of this Association to the Southern Baptist Convention, and W. M. Burr as alternate.

8. The following committees were appointed to report at this session, viz:—On Preaching. B. A. Forrester, S. Martin and W. W. Folsom; on Finance: J. M. Snead, J. M. Moates and N. S. Fellows; on Nominations: J. A. Summerford, J. J. White and T. R. Atwell; on Time and Place of next meeting: H. L. Lisenby, W. P. Jordan, and S. T. Hall.

9. The Committee on Preaching and hours for meeting and adjourning reported as follows: Preaching at the church at 7 o'clock to-night by Rev. J. W. Johnson, of the West Florida Association, and at 11 o'clock to-morrow by Rev. S. A. Savell. Hours for meeting were fixed at 9 A. M. and 1:30 P. M., and for adjournment in the morning at pleasure, in the afternoon at 4 o'clock.

10. W. C. Cleveland read the

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

For the year ending July 1, 1895, the State Board of Missions employed 40 men, 13 of whom were Missionary Colporters.

Days of service 5,011, miles traveled 30,461, sermons delivered 2,332, addresses made 1132, number baptized 337, received by letter 305. Sunday Schools organized 43, Ladies Missionary Societies organized 10, prayer meetings organized 101.

Nineteen young preachers were helped in Howard College, and six in the Seminary.

Received for State Missions \$7,748, Ministerial Education \$1 936.81, Orphanage \$372.92, Home Missions \$3,341.13 Foreign Missions \$3,828 50 and smaller amounts for various other objects amounting in all to \$19 510.

The State Board of Missions has apportioned to the Columbia Association \$725.00 to be contributed during the coming year for all the interests fostered by the Convention.

We recommend that the apportionment be approved, adopted and collected by the churches composing this Association.

Respectfully submitted,
 W. P. Stewart, }
 Wm. J. Smith, } Committee.
 T. A. Jones, }

On motion the report was laid on table, as were also the reports on Home and Foreign Missions when read, and the whole subject of Missions was made the special order for 10 o'clock to-morrow.

11. W. M. Burr read the

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The Home Mission Board is located in Atlanta, Ga., and its field of operation is the territory embraced in the Southern Baptist Convention, together with the Island of Cuba. It sustains about the same relation to our State Mission Boards as the State Mission Boards sustain to the Boards or Executive Committees of our district Associations. It works in connection with our State Boards both in the collection and distribution of its funds. But it also works among the destitute on our western frontier and among the Indian tribes of the west, and among the negroes in some parts of the South, and among the foreign population of some of the larger cities. Bro. McAlpine who is doing such a fine work in this state holding institutes for negro preachers and deacons is the missionary of this Board. Bro. J. M. Brittain is doing a similar work in Georgia.

From the fiftieth annual report made to the Southern Baptist Convention at its Semi-Centennial meeting in Washington last May, we gather the following

SUMMARY.

The summary of our work for the past conventional year is as follows:

Missionaries	425
Weeks of labor	11,466
Churches and stations	3,484
Sermons and addresses	46,620
Prayer-meetings	5,774
Baptisms	5,921
Received by letter	6,519
Total additions	10,564
Sunday-schools	2,110
Teachers and pupils	23,702
Religious visits	52,080
Churches constituted	178
Houses of worship built	52
Bibles and Testaments distributed	7,392
Tracts distributed	584,938

The State Boards of Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Western Arkansas and Indian Territory, Western North Carolina are in co-operation with us in a part or the whole of their work.

We incorporate also the report of the treasurer of the Board, showing the receipts and expenditures during the last Conventional year.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE HOME MISSION BOARD.

1895.

May 1--	By cash received from May 1, 1894		\$ 88,640 20
	Bills payable	\$ 56,634 56	
	Less amount paid back	55,534 56--	1,100 00
	Amount raised and expended on field for mission work as per report		67,138 89
	Amount for houses of worship		58,973 40
	Total receipts, cash and vouchers		<u>215,852 49</u>
	To cash expenditures	89,631 14	
	To expenditures on field	126,112 29	
	To cash on hand	109 06-	<u>215,852 49</u>

WALKER DUNSON, Treasurer.

From these items it will be seen that the work done by the Home Board is among the most prosperous and important of all our denominational enterprises. It deserves our prayers and our support, and should have both

W. M. Burr,
E. R. Hudson, } Committee.
T. T. Ethredge, }

12. The committee on Foreign Missions not being ready with their report it was passed until to-morrow morning.

13. J. J. White read the

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

When we take into consideration what Christianity should be, it looks like time and space thrown away to write on such subjects to be read and discussed before an association of professing Christian men, yet, the condition of things is such that we are called upon to produce them. Why is this the case?

1st. Because the preachers of the gospel fail to do their duty.

2nd. Because the laws of our country are not what they should be toward the promotion and protection of peace and good order.

Why we say the preachers fail to do their duties is this. where ever our brethren attack this great evil in a manful way bar rooms have been closed up, many who have dealt it out to their fellowmen for a livelyhood abandoned the practice and turned to be the greatest enemies the whisky traffic has. They not only became disgusted at it and forsook the evil, but like men they took up arms against it. Some of the more our most successful temperance workers.

The pastor who scripturally contends for sobriety in his church or churches, is soon made to see the fruit of his labor. Those who are true men of God will become more and more temperate those who love to indulge in sin rather than mortify their passions and lusts will soon flee before the rebukes of the sober part of the church and a New Testament discipline.

Brethren try the remedy in your churches for one year, see how things will change. Brethren of the ministry, preach and pray against the evil when ever you have an opportunity.

2nd. If we would, as true patriotic men, resolve ourselves into a firm determination that sober men or none should represent us in the halls of congress and in the legislature, and everywhere else where there was any power to be invested, we could soon bring about a change in the whiskey world. O! my brethren think of the \$700,000 000 thrown into the hands the liquor men every year. It is given to support 24,000 whiskey shops, and those shops destined to end the miserable lives of 100,000 men each year! All this in our own might be happy union. This only prefaces the matter. Could we but look into the homes of those, yea, the hearts of those whose husbands, and fathers, brothers, and sons visit the bars and spend their

money there, to say nothing of the men and boys who have to appear before the United States courts annually, our indignation would be stirred. To know all this my dear brethren and do no more than is being done by the churches of Christ, or by us as citizens, shows us not to be the people we profess to be.

O may the God of mercy and pity move us to duty in this work is the prayer of your committee.

J. J. WHITE,
W. S. WEEKS,
T. J. KING.

The report was laid on the table until to-morrow.

14. B. A. Forrester read the

TREASURER'S REPORT.

B. A. Forrester, in account with the Columbia Association:

Dr.	Oct. 11, 94	To Cash on hand	\$	4.78	
		To amt. received from Finance Com.	\$	107.32	
		To amt. rec'd for Education Bro. Watson	\$	11.10	
					\$123.20
Cr.		By amt. r'm'd Howard College for Watson	\$	11.10	
		By amt. paid for printing 800 minutes	\$	31.00	
		By amt. paid Bro. Burr, clerk fee	\$	25.00	
		By amt. to Bro. Crumpton for Foreign,			
		[Home and State Missions	\$	45.35	
		By amt. paid Bro. Watson for Ministerial			
		[fund	\$	6.00	
		By Balance on hand	\$	4.78	
					\$123.20
		To Balance due Columbia Association	\$	4.78	

B. A. FORRESTER, Treas.

15. W. M. Burr for the committee read the

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The usual tenor and sentiment of reports on the subject of Sunday Schools to the Association are to a very considerable extent misleading and largely untrue for the reason these reports always represent that the Sunday School interest in the bounds of the Association is flourishing and by such representation people are led to the conclusion that we are doing our whole duty with reference to this work. It is here stated that, so far as the information of the writer goes, there is life and activity in the Sunday School work in Columbia Association, but when that is said, we have presented the situation with all the favor that the condition of things will allow. We are glad it is good so far, and every good man who values home and his children should rejoice on account of the benefits of the institution and the influences it exerts over the people of our country. But, while the Baptists of the Columbia Association are thus congratulating themselves, many of you ought to hang your heads in shame because you do nothing to advance this cause in any particular. Good men,

good women so far forget or disregard their duty to themselves, to their families and to their God, that they never lend their presence, aid or concern to the cause of Sunday Schools

B. G. Farmer, }
 J. A. Summertord, } Committee.
 W. W. Pettis. }

The report was laid on the table and made the special order for 2 o'clock to-morrow.

16. W. C. Cleveland read the

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

No subject of graver importance will engage the attention of this Association—none so far reaching in its influence on the interests of Christ's kingdom. Ministers are teachers. If a man will teach, he must be taught; if he will impart, he must have something to impart

While we emphasize most strongly the importance of an educated ministry, we would by no means disparage the many noble and consecrated ministers who have had no college training. However those of them who are rendering the most effective service, are men who have bestowed much time and energy in prayerful study preparing themselves for the work to which the Master has called them. These men with unanimous consent, would, if called on, express regret that they were deprived of the advantages of a college course. Many of these noble men, highly endowed of Heaven, have, in spite of lack of educational advantages risen to be leaders, and mighty powers among their brethren training themselves by dint of hard work, diligent study, and strong manhood.

Read 1st Samuel 19th chapter, and 2nd Kings 6th chapter and find authority for the college training of men for the ministry. The school of the prophets became so numerous that it was necessary to erect larger buildings for their accommodation. They, like those who are called to-day were so poor they had to borrow tools to work with. "The axe-head fell into the water; and he cried, and said, alas, Master, for it was borrowed."

The Apostles had the constant instruction of Christ for three years in preparing themselves for the ministry. Paul said to Timothy, "Study to show thyself an approved workman."

He is unwise who disparages theological education, or condemns the advances already made, or further advances contemplates.

Let us educate, as a growing necessity of the times, which demand an increasingly higher standard of culture. Let us educate, to keep the ministry abreast of the professions

Let us educate that we may have men either able to meet the champions of error and infidelity on their own grounds; or, at least, able to avail themselves effectively of the labors of those who have studied before them. Let us educate, that our pastors may be able to lend effective aid in every desirable educational movement among the people.

But, let us not forget that, after all, the highest and broadest intellectual culture is the very lowest in the list of ministerial qualifications. So far from supposing that, with universal culture in the ministry, we are going to have a success beyond all we have known in the past, let us be sure that the reverse may be true.

If the churches put intellectual culture before moral qualifications, or the qualifications which gave such power to our unschooled fathers, it will not be long before the ministry shall put it before, and both go down together.

Don't let us look with suspicion on seats of learning, secular, or sacred, nor let us withhold our aid in securing to them all necessary endowments and helps for the highest results; at the same time, let us remember that everything human has in it disturbing and destroying elements, and the more we perfect our agencies for good, the more powerful they become as engines for evil, if perverted.

Let us pray much for our institutions of learning. Our churches can keep them in immersed in spiritual influence.

Let not the churches in their choice of candidates, rate intellectual culture above moral qualifications.

Let us watch for young men of good common sense, devoted piety, and deep consecration, who give evidence of having been called of God to preach the gospel, and let us help them while they study to show themselves approved workmen.

Let us lend them axes with which they may cut down difficulties, remove obstacles, and build characters that will make them powers for good.

Money invested in the brains of a consecrated christian man of good common sense, and devoted piety, who has been called of God to preach the gospel, pays more than any other investment possible. It starts influences, deep and broad, that go on increasing forever.

If we would do the greatest, most lasting good, and render the most effective service in the progress of our Master's kingdom, let us assist christian young men of good common sense, devoted piety and deep consecration who have been called of God to preach the Gospel, while they study to prepare themselves to do most effectively the work to which they have been called.

W. C. CLEVELAND,)
R B STAPLETON,) Committee.
J. HALL,)

The report was laid on the table and made the special order for 3 o'clock to-morrow.

17. B. A. Forrester read the

REPORT ON ORPHAN'S HOME.

The orphanage is now permanently located at Evergreen, Ala. The first steps toward its establishment were taken by Mrs. Woodson, when five years ago she gave to the Baptists of Alabama certain valuable property for the maintenance of a Baptist Widows and Orphans Home. This good sister has given several thousand dollars worth of real estate. This Home was not actually started, however, till two years ago in a small rented house. According to the reports they have received into the Home 48 children of whom 23 are girls, 25 are boys. One has been sent out by adoption and one by apprenticeship. We learn that the boys are taught to do farm work and the girls do various kinds of house work. The older children attend school at the academy and the younger ones are taught in the Home. They attend Sunday School and Church and Sunday afternoon they engage in singing and reciting Scripture. They have Baptized 7 of their number. These organized a child's prayer meeting in November 1893.

To make more room for the large growing family they purchased eight acres of land lying on main street with a substantial brick residence of ten rooms. They are greatly needing money to build and improve the property. The property was bought for \$5,000. to be paid in three annual installments. The first note was paid when due. The second note was due January 1st 1895, on this a balance of \$273. is still due. The last payment will be due January 1st 1896. They are asking every Baptist Church, every friend of the Orphans Home, and every one who wishes those poor children well to send something to aid in making the last payment. The current expenses of the Orphans Home are about \$200 a month. We would recommend that the Columbia Association request of the several churches composing the same to give of their substance all they possibly can to help sustain the Home of the Widows and Orphans.

The Book of truth teaches us our duty towards the helpless. We should consider the cause of the poor, we should feel that the Lord is appealing to us to help the poor and needy. May we be resolved to do something in the way of contributions for the Orphans Home at Evergreen, Ala.

Respectfully submitted,
B. A. FORRESTER,)
J. J. WHITE,) Committee.
W. M. BURR,)

The report was laid on the table and made the special order for 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

18. At 4:25 the Association adjourned with benediction by the Moderator.

THURSDAY.--MORNING SESSION.

19. The Association was called to order at 9 o'clock by the Moderator. Prayer by W. B. Crumpton.

20. The minutes of yesterday were read, corrected and approved.

21. Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Corresponding Secretary of the State Board of Missions was recognized as a visitor and introduced to the Association by the Moderator.

22. The special order for 9 o'clock—the Report on Orphan's Home—was taken up, and the Association was addressed by B. A. Forrester, and W. B. Crumpton, followed by a cash collection of \$20.01, and a subscription as follows:

Ashford,	\$ 2.00.	Mt. Gilead,	1.00.
Balkum,	1.00.	Mt. Pleasant,	5.00.
Bluff Springs,	3.00.	Mt. Sinai,	1.00.
Camp Springs,	1.00.	Pleasant Hill,	1.00.
Columbia, Supports one [Orphan		Pilgrims Rest,	2.50.
		Rehoboth;	1.00.
Cowarts,	10.00.	Shiloh,	1.00.
Dothan,	10.00.	Selma,	3.00.
Ebenezer,	1.00.	Union Hill,	1.00.
Halesberg,	1.00.	Mrs. J. M. Moates,	1.00.
Hickory Grove,	1.00.	J. J. White,	2.50.
Memphis,	1.00.	J. W. Johnson,	1.00.
Midway,	2.00.	J. D. Pierce,	1.00.
Mt. Ararat,	1.00.		

Report adopted.

23. At 10 o'clock, the special order for that hour—Missions—was taken up. J. R. G. Howell read the

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

BRO. MODERATOR AND BRETHREN:

Prompted by a desire to do or say something that would aid in the spread of the precious Word, we your committee make this report.

We take the liberty of digressing somewhat from the general rule in making reports of Mission work with the hope that the change in itself will effect some good. We offer this more as an appeal to the Baptist people than as a report.

We deem it unnecessary to enter into statistics. We are at a loss to know just what line of argument would most effectually reach the ears, the hearts and the pockets of our Baptist membership. God's own command, "Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature," should ring in our ears until we are thoroughly aroused to listen with anxious interest to whatever is being said about Missionary work.

Were we so well prepared to listen to the reports of Missionaries as we are to hear an advance in the cotton market, less would be required of speakers and writers and greater and more gratifying would be our contributions to Foreign Mission work.

If we persist in allowing money to come between God and ourselves, our last prayer may be, "Oh money have mercy upon us as sinners!"

While it is a fact that some of our laborers in foreign fields have abandoned their work, and while matrimony has invaded our bounds and transferred one of our most earnest workers, Miss Alberta Newton, to the Wesleyan Mission work, and while death has laid his heavy hand upon some of our best workers yet there are new volunteers constantly marching into active service helping to accomplish more good each year.

It is sometimes argued by our members who are seeking for an excuse, that they do not wish to contribute to Foreign Missions because so much is spent in expense of handling the money, and so small a sum is spent in the foreign fields in actual labors. We your committee wish to state that during the last year, out of each dollar contributed, 8 cents paid all expenses of managing and handling, and 92 cents were spent in paying missionaries for their labors among the heathen idolaters. Is that any longer a grounded excuse? Can we further shelter our guilty consciences behind a fortification that only acts as a microscope for the enlightened world to see our unfaithfulness?

While more has been spent in the cause of foreign missions during the last year, and that money has done more good, than in any previous year, yet we must not allow ourselves to think that our work has yet reached its climax. Our work is only in its infancy. Let us invoke God's blessing at all times, but forbid that we pray without putting forth our efforts and money. Let us be mindful of the fact that each dollar in our hands is a talent as a loan, and at some future day we will be called upon to account for its use in the cause of the Great Giver of all things. Remember that money in God's cause is not so much a gift but the paying of a debt, and at the same time an investment. Remember that money sent to foreign lands shows the broadest charity for our fellowman. That money results in the conversion of souls to God that will send up earnest petitions to God for us and our church membership here in America.

That money is not lost,
That money is not given;
That money is invested,
That souls may reach Heaven.

Respectfully,

J. R. G. Howell,)
N. S. Fellows,) Committee.
H. H. Ethridge,)

The Association was addressed by W. B. Crumpton. The hour for preaching having arrived, a motion to allow brother Crumpton time to finish his address was carried. At the close of Bro. Crumpton's address a cash collection was taken up for Missions amounting to \$13.75. On motion the apportionment made by the State Board of Missions to this Association, amounting to \$725.00 for all purposes, was approved, and the Association pledged itself to make an earnest effort to raise this amount, which makes about 37 per member,

24. At 12 M. the Association adjourned, pending the discussion of Missions, Benediction by the Moderator.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

25. The Association was called to order at 1:30. Prayer by the Moderator.

26. The regular order was suspended, and S. Martin read the

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

With gratitude to our merciful Father we report no deaths among our preachers and deacons during the year past. So far at least as has come to the knowledge of the committee good health has prevailed in our churches. Respectfully submitted,

S. Martin,
J. C. Kelly.

Adopted.

27. Under a further suspension of the regular order T. R. Atwell read the

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

We your committee on the state of churches beg leave to make the following report: We find from the reading of the letters that the churches are all in peace and harmony one with another and that most of them are in a prosperous condition especially those that have kept up an interesting Sabbath School. For all of which brethren let us all be thankful to the great Head of the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Aris Armstrong,
T. R. Atwell,
Archie Kirkland,

Adopted.

28. F. M. Walker, of the Executive Committee, made a verbal statement that the committee had no report to make, as no business had fallen under their hands during the year.

29. Returning to the regular order, the subject of Missions, Bro. Crumpton again addressed the Association.

30. Reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions were adopted.

31. J. M. Snead read the

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We your committee beg leave to submit the following report: We are proud to note that the facilities and opportunities for obtaining an education are rapidly increasing, and still prouder when we recognize that the Baptists are not falling behind in this great work.

Our Baptists have always been active workers in the cause of education and we hope will be more active in the future. As Baptists we are proud of Howard College, East Lake, and the Judson Institute, Marion. We are proud that the Baptist

people have been successful in establishing fine schools that have done so much for christian education in the state of Alabama and in other states as well. These two schools should have the support and assistance of all Baptist people. Howard College is the school for educating our preachers and should be earnestly aided and supported on this account.

Geo. L. Campbell }
G. A. Fellows, } Committee.
J. M. Snead. }

Report was laid on the table till 3 o'clock to be considered in connection with Ministerial Education set for that hour.

32. The Report on Sunday Schools being the special order for 2 o'clock, that time having arrived, the report was taken from the table and was discussed by J. D. Pierce, B. A. Forrester, W. M. Burr, T. M. Spivey, W. B. Crumpton and W. C. Cleveland, and adopted.

33. The following standing committees were appointed to report at the next session.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

STATE MISSIONS:—M. Cody, H. L. Lisenby, J. T. Culbreth.
HOME MISSIONS:—F. H. Twitty, J. H. Laue, A. F. Stanton.
FOREIGN MISSIONS.—R. B. Stapleton, J. M. Snead, N. L. Johnson.
TEMPERANCE:—J. M. Moates, J. R. G. Howell, J. D. Pierce.
MINISTERIAL EDUCATION:—W. P. Stewart, Langly Sasser, James Cooley.
STATE OF CHURCHES:—J. J. White, D. Williams, J. L. Webb.
DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS:—N. S. Fellows, T. M. Spivey, W. R. Nall.
EDUCATION:—B. G. Farmer, J. K. Prevatt, S. T. Hall.
DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE:—J. A. Summerford, W. P. Jordan, S. T. Shiver.
SUNDAY SCHOOLS:—B. A. Forrester, J. A. Cammeron, J. M. Baxley.
ORPHANAGE:—S. A. Savell, H. H. Pool, T. R. Atwell.

34. The special order for 3 o'clock, Education, and Ministerial Education, was taken up. The reports were jointly discussed by W. C. Cleveland, W. M. Burr and W. B. Crumpton, and both were adopted.

35. J. A. Summerford read the

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We your committee on nominations beg to make the following report: F. M. Walker, Dan Williams, N. S. Fellows, T. R. Atwell and W. H. Granberry to serve as executive committee, and that the treasurer of the Association also be considered a member of the committee. That Bro W. M. Burr preach the introductory sermon at the next session, Bro. S. A. Savell alternate.

J. A. Summerford, }
J. J. White, } Committee
T. R. Atwell. }

36. W. P. Jordan read the

REPORT ON TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Your committee recommend that the next session of this body be held with Camp Springs Church on Wednesday before the 1st Sunday in Nov. 1896 at 10:30 A. M.
 [N. B.—See order of business for next session on second page of cover.—Clerk]

H. L. Lisenby, }
 S. T. Hall } Committee.
 W. P. Jordan. }

A motion to substitute Bluff Springs for Camp Springs was lost. Report adopted.

37. J. M. Snead read the

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We your committee on finance ask to make the following report:

Received for Minutes	35 65
“ “ Associational purposes	17.31
“ “ Foreign Missions	48.04
“ “ State	9.36
“ “ Home	19 90
“ “ Missions	13.75
“ “ Ministerial Education	6 00
“ “ Orphan's Home	32.37

Total, \$182 38
6.00

and one voucher for Foreign Missions

J. M. Snead, }
 N. S. Fellows, } Committee
 J. M. Moates. }

Report adopted.

By a unanimous vote the Association rejected a motion to instruct the Finance Committee to accept the statement of the letters as sufficient vouchers for money paid for Missions and other objects.

38. The report on Temperance was taken from the table and made the special order for 9:30 o'clock to-morrow.

39. On motion of B. A. Forrester, the Moderator and Clerk were instructed to prepare and have printed in the Minutes an order of business for the next Association.

40. W. C. Cleveland was requested to add to the articles of faith the Scripture passages supporting the same.

41. At 4 o'clock the Association adjourned. Prayer by A. Daughety. Benediction by the Moderator.

FRIDAY.--MORNING SESSION.

42. Called to order at 9 o'clock. Prayer by S. Williford and J. J. White.

43. The committee on District 5th Sunday Meetings made a verbal report.

44. A motion was adopted instructing the Clerk to have as many copies of the minutes printed, not exceeding 800, as the money contributed for this purpose will pay for, and that the Clerk be allowed the usual fee for his services.

45. The following resolution, offered by J. J. White was unanimously adopted,

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

It is the pleasure of the messengers and officers of this Association to tender their most heartfelt thanks to the neighborhood and community, for the kindness and hospitality they have shown us during our stay with them.

46. At 9:30 o'clock the Report on Temperance was taken up, it being the special order for that hour. The Association was addressed by J. J. White, W. B. Crumpton and W. M. Burr, and the report was adopted.

47. The Clerk was instructed to make a record of the sermons preached during the Association, as follows:

Wednesday night J. W. Johnson preached at the church, and W. C. Cleveland at the Baptist church in Dothan.

Thursday afternoon S. A. Savell preached in the grove near the church.

Thursday night S. Williford preached at the church, and S. A. Savell at Bro. Folsom's.

Friday morning W. B. Crumpton preached the closing sermon at 11 o'clock.

48. Minutes read and approved.

49. At 11 o'clock a motion to adjourn prevailed and the Moderator pronounced the Association adjourned to meet with Camp Springs church at 10:30 o'clock, Wednesday before the first Sunday in November 1896.

At the close of Bro. Crumpton's sermon a parting hymn was sung and the parting hand given, closing one of the best sessions the Association has ever held.

W. M. BURR,
Clerk.

W. C. CLEVELAND,
Moderator.

CONSTITUTION OF COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE 1. This union of churches shall be known and distinguished by the style and name of "The Columbia Baptist Association."

ART. 2. The object of the Association shall be to combine our Christian efforts for the purpose of carrying the appointed means of grace to dying men and women, and to regard all churches united under this constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Her principal object shall be to promote the declarative glory of God by extending His kingdom of grace on earth through the medium of preaching the gospel, and all other means within reach of a working christian organization.

ART. 3. This Association shall be composed of representatives from the churches as follows: Each church having one hundred members or less shall be entitled to two messengers, and to one additional messenger for every fifty members or fractional part thereof in excess of one hundred. But in the business of the Association whenever the messengers from any church desire it the vote shall be taken by churches in which case each church shall be entitled to two votes.

ART. 4. The messengers when convened shall organize themselves into a deliberative body, by the appointment of a Moderator and Clerk, and these officers shall be chosen by ballot, or otherwise as the body may decide at each annual meeting, and continue in office until their successors are chosen. Should any event transpire, so as to prevent any annual meeting of this Association, the Moderator shall have the power to call a meeting at any time and place, which meeting when convened, shall have all the rights of a regular meeting.

ART. 5. This Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which she is composed. She shall regard them as independent bodies in all measures of internal government, and shall act in an advisory council assuming no authority but what is expressly delegated to her by the churches, or evidently implied by the very nature of the compact. But she nevertheless claims authority over her own members, the messengers of the churches, and in justice and propriety must have power to withdraw from and disown all churches that depart from the principles of the compact by holding opinions repugnant to the doctrines of the Scriptures, or are disorderly in practice.

ART. 6. Newly constituted churches or churches dismissed from Associations of the same faith and order may be admitted into this union on their sending up messengers to an annual meeting with a petition, and those messengers agreeing to the abstract principles adopted the Association.

ART. 7. The churches in this union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association written communications specifying the names of messengers, members in fellowship, baptised, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored since last session and such other information, as the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 8. This Association shall have a fund, supplied by voluntary contribution of the churches; and all moneys thus contributed or otherwise received shall be transmitted through the finance committee to the treasurer who shall be elected by ballot or otherwise, as the body may decide, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association.

ART. 9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of printed minutes of every session of this body and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

ART. 10. This Association when convened shall be governed by proper rules setting forth the duties of officers and such other matters necessary for a deliberative body, and may alter or amend such rules from time to time by a majority vote of the body in annual session.

ART. 11. The executive committee shall attend to such duties as may be imposed upon it by the Association, and when the Association is not in session this committee shall have power to fill vacancies that may occur.

ART. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended at a regular meeting of the Association by a vote of two thirds of the members present, provided such alteration or amendment is not disapproved of by a majority of the churches in their written communications to the next annual session of the body.

DECORUM.

1st. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the deliberations of the Association in session, preserve order, submit motions or other matter and announce results when passed on by the body. He may have the same right of speech as any other member provided the chair be occupied, but is not allowed to vote, except the body be equally divided, in which case he shall give the casting vote.

2nd. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a correct record of the minutes of the proceedings in a clear and concise manner, and immediately after the adjournment of each annual session to prepare a copy of the same for distribution to the churches for the payment of which he shall draw his draft upon the Treasurer of the Association.

3rd. The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of all monies coming into his hands, as well as the manner in which it is distributed. He shall only pay out money upon the order of the Association in session, or the Executive Committee in vacation. He shall render an annual statement to the Association of all funds received and disbursed by him showing the balance, if any, remaining on hand.

4th. This Association shall not consider any query or other matter affecting the churches, unless they have first endeavored to solve the same and failed; nor any difficulty between churches unless they have pursued the directions contained in the 18th chapter of Mathew, and have not been able to bring about a settlement and reconciliation, in which case the Association shall take such matters under consideration, and act upon them or not at her discretion.

5th. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation and be acted upon by the body, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

6th. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject in debate.

7th. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the body. And it shall be a violation of these rules for any member to abruptly break off or absent himself without leave of the body; and if he does so he shall be liable to reproof by the Moderator.

8th. The Clerk, Treasurer and all members of the standing committees shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking and voting as other members, except in cases where the interests of any individual church is to be affected by the matter at issue. In this latter case they may express their views but shall not be allowed to vote.

9th. These rules may be altered or amended by a majority of the members in session.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in the existence of one only true and living God, and that he has made himself known to his people under the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the same in essence and equal in divine perfection. John 4: 24. Ps. 147: 5. Rom. 1: 20. Jer. 10: 10. Ex. 15: 11. Rev. 4: 6, 8. John 10: 30. John 5: 17.

Art. 2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17. Rom. 3: 1, 2. 2 Tim. 3: 15. Proverbs 30: 5, 6. Rom. 2: 12.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of election, and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world; that they should be holy and without blame before him, in love, having predestined them to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will. Tim. 1: 8, 9. Eph. 1: 3-12. 1 Pet. 1: 1, 2. Rom. 11: 5, 6. Rom. 8: 28-38. 2 Thess. 2: 13, 14. Ex. 33: 18, 19. Matt. 20: 15. 2 Pet. 1: 10, 11.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin. Gen. 1: 27. Gen. 3: 6-24. Rom. 5: 19. Eph. 2: 1-3. Ezek. 18: 19, 20.

Art. 5. We believe in man's incompetency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own will and ability. Eph. 2: 8. Matt. 18: 11. Acts 15: 11. Isa. 53: 4, 5. Heb. 7: 25.

Art. 6. We believe sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ. Acts 13: 39. Rom. 5: 9. Rom. 5: 17. Rom. 4: 4, 5. Rom. 5: 19. Rom. 5: 1, 2.

Art. 7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost. John 3: 3. John 3: 6, 7, 8. 2 Cor. 5: 17. John 1: 13. James 1: 14-18. 1 John 5: 1.

Art. 8. We believe that nothing can separate the true believers from the love of God, but that they will be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. John 8: 31. 1 John 2: 10. Rom. 8: 8. Phil. 1: 6. Phil. 2: 12, 13.

Art. 9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ; that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and that immersion only is baptism. Acts 8: 36-39. Matt. 3: 5, 6. Matt. 28: 19. Rom 6: 4. Col. 2: 12. Acts 2: 41, 42.

Art. 10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgement. 1 Pet. 4: 7. Acts 1: 11. Acts 24: 15. Matt 13: 49. Matt. 25: 31-46

Art 11. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joy of the righteous will be eternal. Mal. 3: 18. 1 John 5: 19. Prov. 14. 32. Luke 16: 25. John 8: 21-24. Matt. 7: 13, 14.

Art 12. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances unless he is called of God, and comes under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery, and is in fellowship in the church of which he is a member. 1 Cor. 1: 1-13. 2 Cor. 8: 5. 1 Cor 11: 2. Rom 16: 17-20. 1 Cor. 4: 17

Art 13. We believe that a proper administrator of the ordinance of baptism should be called of God, set apart by a presbytery and in full fellowship with the church of which he is a member. Phil. 1: 1. Acts 14: 23. 1 Tim 3. Titus 1.

2375	211
246	140
129	24
246	164
	17
	68

TABULAR EXHIBIT.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	P. O.	CLERKS.	P. O.	Day of Mtg.	Inc by Baptism.	Inc by Letter.	Inc. by Rest'n.	Dec by Letter.	Dec by Exch'n.	Dec. by Death.	Membership.	Total	Contributions to Missions	Contributions to Minutes.	Education.	Ministerial	Orphanage.	Purposes.	Associational	Total
Ashford	W. H. Simons	Ozark	J. P. Dwyer	Ashford	4th Sunday	3	4	1	2	1	2	61	58	\$1.25	1.00					1.00	3.25
Balkum	S. A. Savelle	Halesburg	S. C. I. Sasser	Balkum	1st "	3	3	1	1	1	1	58	3.75	1.50					1.00	6.25	
Bluff Springs	J. J. White	Cowarts	J. G. B. Watson	Ashford	2nd "	3	7	4	1	1	1	130	10.00	1.50					1.00	12.60	
Camp Springs	S. A. Savelle	Halesburg	J. F. Hasley	Columbia	4th "	9	6	1	3	3	2	73	3.40	1.50				2.00	6.90		
Columbia	W. C. Cleveland	Columbia	G. L. Campbell	Columbia	Every	3	4	3	3	3	1	188	37.30	2.00	25.00	15.00		1.00	380.30		
Cowarts	F. J. White	Cowarts	N. S. Fellows	Cowarts	Every	8	10	1	3	3	3	112	43.64	2.00	20.21	12.36		1.00	56.00		
Dothan	W. M. Burr	Dothan	F. H. Murphy	Dothan	Every	48	18	1	13	3	3	168	44.6	2.50	5.00				66.97		
Ebenezer	W. M. Ohff	Ashford	W. C. King	Oates	3d "	14	6	2				8		1.50						6.50	
Gordon																					2.34
Halesburg	W. P. Stewart	Columbia	S. T. Hall	Halesburg	3rd "	1	2		2			61	.84	1.50					1.00	3.00	
Hickory Grove	A. H. Taylor	Kinsey	W. L. Hutton	Granger	4th "	11	9		2	4	1	40	1.00	1.00					.80	2.42	
Liberty	W. P. Stewart	Columbia	W. C. Thompson	Pansey	3rd "	5	3		6	1	1	81	1.52	.90					1.00	4.00	
Memphis	J. C. Skipper	Dothan	J. C. Stewart	Cowarts	3rd "	57	22	5	16	5	3	197	1.00	2.00					.50	1.00	
Midway	B. J. Fordham	Kinsey	J. M. Moates	Dothan	3rd "	2	1		14	2	2	22	.50	.50					1.00	2.50	
Mt. Arrat	Moses Brackin	pl'snt Plains	J. W. Kirkland	pl'snt. Plains	1st "	2	2		16	1		91		1.50					1.00	2.50	
Mt. Calvary	S. Williford	Watford	T. J. Austin	Dothan	4th "	1	6		7	1		33	.75	1.00					1.00	2.00	
Mt. Gilstead	G. W. Ohff	Ashford	C. G. Hughes	Sanders	1st "	1	2	1				59		1.00					.80	2.25	
Mt. Ebron	Arts Armstrong	Headland	F. M. Mann	Midland City	1st "	18	12		3	2	2	106	6.30	2.00					.55	8.30	
Mt. Pleasant	James Blount	Dundee	T. B. Portson	Pinecard	4th "	4	1		3			20	.50	1.00					.50	1.05	
New Providence	A. Dangletry	Dothan	S. Franklin	Crosby	2nd "	11	7	3	1	1		45	6.16	1.00	1.00				.50	1.50	
Pilgrims Rest	G. T. Hurst	Cairo, Ga.	F. A. Grimsly	pl'snt. Plains	2nd "	4	9		8	1	1	19	5.00	1.50					.75	11.22	
Pleasant Hill	S. A. Savelle	Halesburg	W. F. Davis	Gordon	2nd "	4	2		1	1		96	1.50	1.50					.75	7.50	
Rehoboth	J. C. Skipper	Dothan	J. P. Burkett	Sanders	3rd "	5	2		5	4		51	3.00	1.00					.75	1.50	
Shiloh	S. A. Savelle	Halesburg	J. H. Harris	pl'snt Plains	1st "	3	4	4	13	5	1	50	.25	1.50						4.00	
Selma	J. W. Johnson	Headland	J. M. Lisenby	Dothan	2nd "	4	4		5	3		51	1.50	1.50						1.50	
Union Hill	J. W. Johnson	Graceville		Dothan	Totals.	211	140	24	164	65	17	1040	\$177.39	\$31.90	\$51.2	\$27.36	\$12.81	\$677.85	13.75	20.56	

20.56

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	SUPTS.	P. O.	Officers & Teach.	No. of Scholars.	Av. Attendance	Value of Church Property.
Ashford	H. H. Ethredge	Ashford	6	32	32	\$1,000.00
Balkum						
Bluff Springs	L. T. Meadows	Ashford	5	30	25	
Camp Springs	W. H. Howard	Columbia	6	28	18	
Columbia	Jno. T. Davis	Columbia				
Cowarts	James Cooley	Cowarts	4	120	60	
Dothan	B. G. Farmer	Dothan	11	168	104	\$15,000.00
Ebenezer						
Gordon						
Halesburg						
Hickory Grove						
Liberty						
Memphis						\$150.00
Midway						
Mt. Ararat	J. D. Long	Dothan	5	40		
Mt. Calvary	J. W. Kirkland	Pl'snt Plains	3	44	20	
Mt. Gilead						
Mt. Enon						
Mt. Pleasant						
Mt. Sinai						
New Providence						
Pilgrim's Rest	W. P. Jordan	Crosby		30	20	
Pleasant Plains						
Pleasant Hill						
Rehoboth						
Shiloh	J. E. Harris	Pl'snt Plains	8	40	30	
Selma						
Union Hill						
Totals,						48,532.309 \$16,150.00

ORDAINED MINISTERS BELONGING TO THE ASSOCIATION, WITH THEIR P. O.

Armstrong, Aris, Headland.
Burr, W. M., Dothan.
Cleveland, W. C., D. D., Columbia.
Fordham, B. J., Pleasant Plains.
Hall, J. M., Columbia.
Lisenby, H. L., Dothan.
Oloff, G. W., Cowarts.
Pearce, J. D., Dothan.
Savell, S. A., Haleburg.
Stewart, W. P., Columbia.
Skipper, J. C., Dothan.
Watson, J. F., East Lake.
White, J. J., Cowarts.

